

FISCAL NOTE

SB 419 - HB 1468

April 1, 1997

SUMMARY OF BILL: Gives circuit court original jurisdiction in governmental tort liability cases and requires a jury trial upon demand. Under current law, in counties with a population over 600,000, the general sessions court has concurrent jurisdiction. Jury trial may only be held in cases with multiple defendants where one is not a governmental entity or employee.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

Increase State Expenditures - Not Significant
Increase Local Govt. Expenditures* - Exceeds \$100,000

Assumes trials in circuit court will result in a not significant increase in state expenditures. The increase in local government expenditures results from additional jury costs, defense costs by local governments, and increases in awards to plaintiffs.

**Article II, Section 24 of the Tennessee Constitution provides that: no law of general application shall impose increased expenditure requirements on cities or counties unless the General Assembly shall provide that the state share in the cost.*

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.



James A. Davenport, Executive Director

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